

## **GAP Online Background Information**

### **What is GAP Online?**

GAP Online (GO) is an internet based tool for developing, reviewing, and finalizing GAP work plans and progress reports.

### **Why has it been developed?**

GO helps ensure tribes and the EPA use a standardized GAP work plan format that was introduced in 2006. The new format ensures work plans conform to regulations at 40 CFR Part 35, EPA's GAP Guidelines (March 9, 2000), and EPA's Environmental Results Order 5700.7.

Several additional advantages associated with GAP Online are listed below:

- Online work plan development and reporting will create an electronic database that can be queried and analyzed as needed. This will help the RTOC, NTOC and EPA with their reporting, planning and budgeting activities.
- Submitting proposals online will save paper and mailing costs.
- GO will move tribes and the EPA along the path to e-Gov.
- Work plans and reports will be archived and accessible to recipients and the EPA at all times.

### **When is it going to be in place?**

GAP Online Version 2.1 became operational in October 2008. All Region 9 tribes will be required to use GAP Online beginning in the 2009 GAP grant cycle. GAP Online has been in development since 2003 and the current system is a result of the input received from tribal and EPA users. In October 2008, the American Indian Environmental Office will begin working with the Regions to introduce tribes to GAP Online version 2.1.

### **What happens next?**

All Region 9 tribes have access to the system and have been assigned GO passwords and usernames. Tribes should access the system at: [http://iaspub.epa.gov/GAP\\_Online/](http://iaspub.epa.gov/GAP_Online/) and become familiar with the tool. A GO guide book is available at: <http://www.epa.gov/Indian/pdfs/gap-online-tribal-guide-2007.pdf>

Region 9 tribes and the EPA will use GAP Online during the FY-2009 GAP grant cycle and the EPA will continue to refine and develop GO based on user feedback. Tribes that do not yet know their usernames and passwords should call their Project Officer.